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THE MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

FOR 1964.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1964.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Health Report for the year ending 31st December, 1964.

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid year population was 7,410 (an increase of 350 from 1963). The 1962 estimate was the same as that for 1963 and the 1961 census figure was 7,744.

There were 136 live births the same figure as in 1963. There were three stillbirths and one infant death. This death was in the first week of the child's life.

There was no maternal death.

The number of deaths was 115 compared with 129 the previous year. Again most of the deaths were from heart disease (including coronary thrombosis) strokes and cancer.

Six new cases of tuberculosis were notified (One more than 1963) and one death from tuberculosis (the same as 1963).

It can be said that the figures generally indicate a healthy community.

I wish to thank the Public Health Inspectors Mr. D.J. Jones and Mr. R. Davies for their valuable help and also Mr. Ellis and the other council officials for their co-operation.

Finally I wish to thank all the Council Members for their continued support and encouragement.

Yours faithfully,

H. FRANCIS,

District Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Deudraeth District - 75,493 acres
Rateable Value - £163,564
Population (Registrar General's figures) - 7,744 (1962)
Sum represented by a Penny Rate - £628. 6. 8.
Number of inhabited houses (According to the Rate Books) at end of year - 2,579.

VITAL STATISTICS

Comparability Factors -

Births	.. ..	1.19
Deaths	.. ..	0.79

BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS				Males	Females
Total	136	..	..	71	65
Legitimate	130	..	..	67	63
Illegitimate	6	..	..	4	2

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population - 18.35
1963 figures - 19.26

Illegitimate Live Births (per 1,000 population) - 0.81

STILL BIRTHS				Males	Females
Total	..	..	..	3	nil

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population - 00.40

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births - 21.58

TOTAL BIRTHS (Live & Still)		Males	Females
Live	- 136	71	65
Still	- 3	3	nil

DEATHS

DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR	Males	Females
Total	1	-
Legitimate	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births - 07.35
1963 figures - 14.70

Deaths of Legitimate Infants
Mortality (per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births) - 07.69

Deaths of Illegitimate Infants
Mortality (per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births) - nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS	Males	Females
Total	1	-
Legitimate	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE	Males	Females
Total	1	-
Legitimate	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate - 7.35

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate -7.35

Perinatal Mortality Rate - 29.12

MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion) -

Maternal Mortality (Rate per 1,000 Live Still Births) nil
1963 figures - nil

DEATHS	Males	Females
Total Number 115	51	64
Rate per 1,000 population - 15.52 1963 figures - 18.27		
DEATHS FROM CANCER		
Total number 18	8	10
Rate per 1,000 population - 02.43 1963 figures - 1.98		
DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS		
Total Number 1	1	nil
Rate per 1,000 population - 00.13 1963 figures - 0.14		

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(1) Public Health Officers of the Authority

One Medical Officer of Health
Two Public Health Inspectors.

(2) Laboratory Facilities

Water Analysis (Chemical) carried out by the Public Analyst, Chester.
Bacteriological examination of water and examination of milk by the Public Health Laboratory, Conway.

(3) Ambulance Facilities

One Ambulance stationed at Penrhyndeudraeth.

(4) Infant Welfare Clinics

Penrhyndeudraeth - held on alternate Tuesdays in the Church Hall
Harlech - held monthly in the free library on the first Monday in the month.
Trawsfynydd - held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Congregational Chapel Vestry.

(5) Ante Natal Clinics

At Isallt Clinic weekly.

(6) Orthopaedic Clinic

Held fortnightly at the Clinic, Wynne Road, Blaenau Ffestiniog.

(7) Tuberculosis Clinic

Held every week at the Clinic, Wynne Road, Blaenau Ffestiniog.

(8) Diphtheria Immunisation

Carried out at the Infant Welfare Clinic and by General Practitioners in their surgeries. Immunization of young children is also carried out by the School Medical Officer at the primary Schools.

(9) Hospitals

There is no general hospital in the area.

One long-stay Hospital for the aged is situated at Penrhyndeudraeth.

(10) Infectious Diseases

Total number of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year - 37.

Scarlet Fever	- nil
Bacillary Dysentry	- nil
Whooping Cough	- 1
Measles	- 27
Infantile Paralysis	- nil
Pneumonia	- 9

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES

Pulmonary — Total - 6; Males - 4 Females - 2

Non Pulmonary — Total - 1; Males - nil Females - 1

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS

Total - 1

Pulmonary Males - 1 Females - nil

Non-pulmonary Total - nil.

New Cases and Mortality during 1964 in age groups

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
under 1 year								
1 year								
2 - 4								
5 - 9								
10 - 14								
15 - 19		1						
20 - 24								
25 - 34	1			1				
35 - 44								
45 - 54		1						
55 - 64	2				1			
65 - 74	1							
75 and over								

CAUSES OF DEATH 1964

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	1	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
Cancer Stomach	4	1
" Bronchus	2	-
" Breast	-	3
" Other sites	2	6
Leukaemia, alukaemia	-	-
Diabetes	-	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	16
Coronary disease, angina	15	7
Hypertension with heart disease	9	12
Other heart diseases	-	-
Other circulatory disease	3	4
Influenza	-	1
Pneumonia	-	1
Bronchitis	-	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	4
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-
All other accidents	2	3
Suicide	2	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	-

FOOD HYGIENE

Advise was given to food handlers generally during the year.

No. of prosecutions

Nil

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR 1964.

The following inspections were carried out during the year:-

Houses - Public Health Acts	416
Houses - Housing Acts	283
Complaints investigated	119
Factories	24
Rodent Destruction	886
Petroleum Acts	23
Shops	56
Catering Establishments	45
Vehicles conveying food	43
Bakehouses	6
Fried Fish Shops	4
Butchers' Shops	24
Ice Cream Premises	24
Unsound Foods	13
Visits to shops etc. re suspect Corned Beef	57
Houses disinfected	2
Water samples	59
Sewage Effluent samples	14
Miscellaneous	156
Caravan Sites	73
Refuse Sites	56
Meat Inspection	156
Water supplies	154
Sewerage and sewage disposal	172
Informal Notices served	48
Statutory Notices Served: P.H. Acts	4

HOUSING REPORT

Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied.

(a) After informal action by Council	15
(b) After formal notice under:-	
1. Public Health Acts	5
2. Sections 9 & 16 Housing Act 1957	4
(c) Under section 24 Housing Act 1957	1

HOUSING IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPROVED

Standard Grants	10
Discretionary Grants	12

WATER CONNECTIONS

New connections to Council's mains	17

WATER METERS

New water meters fixed	9
Total number of meters fixed in district up to 30/12/64	109

PLANNING AND BUILDING BYE-LAW APPLICATIONS DURING 1964

Planning applications	249
Bye-law applications	136
	385

WATER SUPPLY

Interconnecting of the water supplies of Harlech with Talsarnau, Llanbedr and supply from Dolgellau R.D.C. resulted in the summer situation in Harlech, Llanfair and Llandanwg being easier than ever. Complaints of insufficiency of supply were reduced to a minimum and even where bursts occurred in the mains the parts without a supply was confined to a few dwellings only until repairs had been effected.

At Trawsfynydd, Gellilydan and Maentwrog after some irritating teething troubles, the introduction of the additional new supply from Llyn Cain source had proved a most welcomed addition to this part of the district. Previously the sufficiency or rather the insufficiency of the supply was precariously balanced between the needs of the Nuclear Power Station, the associated works camp and the domestic needs of the district. Now there is sufficient supply for all needs, although the filters and purification plant requires constant and daily attention, and some further improvements are now in progress.

No complaints of insufficiency came from Croesor now that the additional stream supply is in full operation.

However, the storage and supply to Garreg and Llanfrothen must be improved before any further development can take place. The present storage tank must be increased, or better still, a new and larger tank at a higher elevation provided. This together with the necessary improvements at Penrhyndeudraeth is urgently needed.

Purity of the supplies is maintained by constant attention to the filters and purification plants.

Samples for bacteriological analysis of all supplies are taken regularly and sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Conway for examination.

DWELLING HOUSES SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS

Parish	Direct to the Houses	By means of standpipes
Llanbedr	132	
Harlech	479	4
Talsarnau	208	3
Llandecwyn	32	
Penrhyndeudraeth	741	6
Llanfrothen	129	
Maentwrog	177	
Trawsfynydd	295	3

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There are disposal works at present at Llanfair (Llandanwg), Harlech, Ynys, Talsarnau, Minffordd, Cilfor (Llandecwyn), Gellilydan, Maentwrog, Trawsfynydd, Garreg (Llanfrothen), and Rhyd (Llanfrothen).

At Llanbedr there is direct discharge without treatment, also at Penrhyndeudraeth, but schemes for the construction of new sewers and disposal works are in hand. There are also sewers at Croesor with two cesspools for disposal. Properly constructed sewage disposal works should be provided here.

Villages still requiring sewers and sewage disposal:-

Soar (Talsarnau)
Glanywern (Talsarnau)
Gwynfryn (Llanbedr)
Bronaber (Trawsfynydd)
Llandecwyn Village.

Following consultation with the Welsh Office, and the resulting reports submitted to the Council, improvements have been effected at some of the works and the system of maintenance altered to provide improved attention.

Further consideration is also being given to suggestions by the Council's Engineers for the improvement of works, and their enlargement where required.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

The slaughterhouse at Cae Iago, Ffestiniog continued to operate satisfactorily during the year, and all animals slaughtered were inspected as to their fitness for human consumption.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council employ one full time rodent operator, in conjunction with the Ffestiniog Urban District Council, The whole of the district's sewerage system was treated during May and June, and all Council refuse sites and sewage disposal works were regularly inspected and treated. It is obvious that the occupiers of both agricultural and business premises are carrying out their own treatments for rodent destruction. Despite a further determined effort to interest the occupiers of such premises to enter into a contract agreement for rodent control, the response was again negative.

Number and purpose of visits made during 1964

Complaints	Inspections	Treatments
	Private Dwellings	
147	1324	533
	Council Properties	
nil	17	505
	Business Premises	
8	169	195
	Agricultural Properties	
4	17	4

REFUSE COLLECTION

The Council collect refuse once weekly throughout the district, apart from a few isolated houses and farms. The service was extended to cover all additional dwelling houses erected. The new refuse collecting vehicle purchased in 1963 continued to operate satisfactorily.

During the summer, refuse and litter produced at the major caravan camps was collected daily, and all litter baskets throughout the district were emptied on an average of four days each week.

There are three refuse disposal tips in the district, and disposal on each is partially controlled. Difficulty was again experienced in finding sufficient and suitable covering material for the refuse deposited, but, by regular use of the Council-owned tractor fitted with dozer blade the three disposal tips were kept in a nuisance-free condition.

FOOD HYGIENE

No complaints were received from the public of contaminated foodstuffs or of unhygienic conditions of food handling. There were no food poisoning notifications nor cases otherwise ascertained during the year.

Inspections were carried out at catering establishments, licensed premises, grocers and butchers' shops, ice cream premises, and advice given regarding food hygiene with a view to minimizing the ever-present risk of food contamination. Delivery vans and mobile shops were inspected as oftan as possible.

In connection with the food poisoning outbreak at Aberdeen, all shops, catering establishments etc., in the district were visited to ascertain if any suspect corned beef was held in stock, and the necessary advice given.

Eighteen traditional houses were completed by the Council during the year in order to meet both the general needs of the district and the personnel employed at the Nuclear Power Station, Trawsfynydd.

Some further progress was made with the clearance of unfit houses insofar as the owners thereof submitted satisfactory proposals for repair and improvement, and the work was satisfactorily completed. Although the Council are fortunate in that there are relatively few occupied unfit houses in the area, it is obvious that a concentrated effort to complete the programme will have to be made in 1965, otherwise the problem will remain indefinitely.

D.J. JONES,

9/4/65. Public Health Inspector.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	-	-	-
(ii) Factoreis not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	37	28	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	39	28	-	-

2. - Cases in which DEFECTS were found - Nil.

PART VIII OF THE ACT. (Sections 133 and 134) - Nil.